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Attachment 1

Significant COINS Events

15 July 1965 — McGeorge Bundy transmitted three PFIAB (Baker Communications Panel) recommendations to the DCI. Recommendation 2 is origin of COINS (Expand NSA TIPS system to include terminal tie-in from other agencies. Other agencies could add their files to TIPS system. An experiment - no economic justification required). Bundy stated that President endorses these recommendations. PFIAB proposed schedule:

   Sept. 1965   — Other agencies tie into TIPS

   Summer 1966   — System should have extensive
                     capability to handle Soviet bio-
                     graphic problem

   Summer 1967   — Capability to exchange outputs
                     from various mechanized sources.

(PFIAB recommendation no. 1 dealt with training and resulted in the Information Science Center. Recommendation no. 3 dealt with the need to further explore information processing problems in the Community and resulted in the Knox Panel.)

September 1965 — COINS Committee under CODIB established to carry out PFIAB recommendation. [   ] NSA named   25X1
Chairman of the Committee. Membership: NSA, CIA, DIA, State, NPIC.

May 1966 — COINS implementation plan published by COINS Committee for CODIB consideration. This plan is the first published elaboration on the COINS network of computers concept; i.e., a major conceptual design change from the PFIAB notion of participating in TIPS. Implementation plan was essentially approved by CODIB and USIB.

May 1966 — CIA's EXDIR issued a policy paper on CIA participation in COINS. Paper stated that CIA would participate as fully as possible. This paper also stated that CIA would provide the store and forward communications switch for COINS. (At that time it was envisioned this would occur around 1968. The BoB later denied CIA switch funds, so DIA which had agreed to provide the initial switch has had the switch responsibility ever since.)

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August 1966	— Acting Chairman, CIA Task Force on COINS (Briggs) in a memorandum to the EXDIR provided a CIA implementation plan for COINS costing [ ] for FY67. At that time it was estimated that initial implementation could be accomplished by January 1967.
February 1967	— Communications link between NSA and DIA installed and successfully tested.
March 1968	— CODIB Panel on Files for Use in COINS, chaired by [ ] issued its report. Panel establish criteria for COINS files and recommended ten existing files for inclusion in the experiment. These ten files are known as primary files. Additional files, known as secondary files, have also been contributed by NSA, DIA and CIA.
April 1968	— New COINS management structure established per USIB-D-39.1/9, 11 April 1968. NSA made Executive Agent. CIA COINS responsibility placed in the DDI. [ ] NSA, made overall Project Manager.
September 1968	— Communications link between CIA/Headquarters, CIA/NPIC and DIA were installed and successfully tested.
November 1968	— Memorandum from DIRNSA to DCI requesting a delay until December 1968 (instead of October) in the submission of the COINS Master Plan (for the experiment) and a delay until 1 April 1969 (instead of 1 March) for the start of the COINS experiment.
December 1968	— Memorandum from Chairman, IHC (for the DCI) to DIRNSA agreeing to above requested delay.
December 1968	— COINS Master Plan (i.e., plan for the COINS experiment) transmitted to the DCI by memorandum from DIRNSA. DIRNSA memorandum noted that CIA had taken exception (footnoted) to COINS objectives contained in the Master Plan and additionally recommended that participating agencies identify additional files that would have utility in COINS.
24 December 1968	— Acting DCI, Rufus Taylor, responded to above memorandum. Stated that efforts to resolve differences over objectives would be followed with interest and told DIRNSA that the Chairman, IHC, has been told to look into the COINS file problem.

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| April 1969 | – Memorandum from DIRNSA to DCI requesting a further six month delay in start of experiment to 1 October 1969. |

| April 1969 | – Memorandum from Chairman, IHC (for the DCI) to DIRNSA agreeing to above request. |

| July 1969 | – Agreed on COINS objectives transmitted to DCI by memorandum from DIRNSA. DIRNSA memorandum stated that lack of formal data standards was a severe problem in the Community and COINS. Recommended that a program be developed to cope with this problem. |

| August 1969 | – Memorandum from Chairman, IHC (for the DCI) to DIRNSA stating that work on data standards is underway and that a paper on the subject for USIB approval was being drafted by the IHC. |

| October 1969 | – COINS six month experiment semi-officially began. All systems working poorly with many system outages. |

| November 1969 | – An NSA analyst questioned the security level of NPIC's Target Brief Header File; i.e., he thought it should be T/KH rather than non-codeword. Pending TCO judgement, NPIC withdrew from the experiment. The TCO later ruled that the file should carry a T/KH caveat. |

| Winter 1969-70 | – Charles Joyce, National Security Council, investigated information processing in the Intelligence Community. He recommended to senior CIA officials that CIA participate more fully in COINS in terms of hours and file contributions. |

| January 1970 | – The CIA member of the IHC read a statement to the IHC regarding the CIA position on COINS; i.e., end the experiment in March 1970 and begin the COINS evaluation phase. Other IHC members did not support CIA position. |

| March 1970 | – CIA offered to make a portion of its document retrieval index, AEGIS, available to COINS. The index to finished intelligence was placed on COINS and participants from other agencies were briefed on how to use the system. |

| March 1970 | – Memorandum from DIRNSA to DCI recommending a) that CIA be allowed to process multi-compartmented data while participating in COINS (in other words, CIA and NPIC go on the air 8 hours a day), b) that the COINS experiment be extended two years, c) that COINS participants develop more responsive files, and d) each agency should orient and train more users. |

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April 1970	— Memorandum from Chairman, IHC (for the DCI) to DIRNSA which generally agreed with DIRNSA's above recommendations, but did state that evaluation of COINS should start in less than two years.
April 1970	— CIA requested that the Project Manager survey all COINS participants regarding the possibility of including T/KH material in COINS. Rationale – NPIC and Headquarters will find very limited utility for COINS until it becomes all source.
May 1970	— CIA proposed that COINS be redesigned using a single dedicated computer with terminal tie-ins from interested agencies; i.e., a return to the original PFIAB concept. Rationale – Purpose of COINS is to share data, not to build a network of computers. We should test the sharing data concept in a simpler environment.
June 1970	— CIA refused to provide [____] to share in the funding of the DIA switch. CIA advised the Executive Agent to seek supplemental funds from the Bureau of the Budget for this purpose. Actually, DIA had funds in its budget for the switch. It wanted money from us to support programs that had been cut by BoB. 25X1
July 1970	— CIA announced that NPIC would be returning to the COINS network shortly in a passive mode; i.e., NPIC can levy queries on other systems, but it has no files to contribute that meet the SI security limitation.
July 1970	— Memorandum from DIRNSA to DCI recommending that security concerns be waived so that CIA Headquarters can participate in COINS 8 hours per day. Memo also applauded NPIC return to COINS (in a passive mode; i.e., as a user only) and recommended the appointment of an NPIC Subsystem Manager.
August 1970	— DCI replied to above memorandum stating that security issues could not be waived and that CIA is studying its COINS posture.
December 1970	— Memorandum from DCI to DIRNSA stating that CIA would reduce its level of participation in COINS by removing its computer from the network and establishing a terminal link to one of the other participants. Memo also stated that CIA would continue to supply files to the network.
July 1971	— A CIA terminal link to the NSA system established. NSA reimbursed [____] by CIA for equipment required to accommodate CIA files. 25X1

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September 1972   — Memorandum from ASDI to the DCI recommending that COINS be evaluated. The DCI concurred in a 22 September memorandum and directed that ASDI conduct the review under the auspices of IRAC.

October 1972   — Memorandum from ASDI to the DCI announcing the formation of the COINS Review (Study) Group and enclosing its terms of reference.

February 1973   — Report of the COINS Review Group published.

March 1973   — A COINS Communications Working Group established pursuant to a COINS Review Group recommendation that COINS management submit a plan for upgrading the network and to specifically address a means to eliminate the COINS switch.

April 1973   — Memorandum from D/IC to ASDI accepting the recommendation of the COINS Review Group.

April 1973   — A COINS Working Group on Files established pursuant to a COINS Review Group recommendation that COINS files of little utility be purged and that more useful files be added to COINS.

July 1973   — NPIC IDF file made available to COINS pursuant to a request contained in an April memorandum from D/IC to NPIC.

July 1973   — A draft plan published by the Communications Working Group which recommends that COINS establish a communications facility like that used by the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) network. [ ] OC, is the CIA member of this group. This plan will be submitted to IRAC at its September/October meeting.

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